

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of recognizing punctuation in computer-implemented speech recognition, the method comprising:
 - performing speech recognition on an utterance to produce a recognition result for the utterance;
 - identifying a non-verbalized punctuation mark in a recognition result including predicting the non-verbalized punctuation mark using at least one text feature and at least one acoustic feature related to the utterance;
 - inserting the non-verbalized punctuation mark into the recognition result; and
 - formatting the recognition result based on the identification of the non-verbalized punctuation mark after the non-verbalized punctuation mark has been inserted in the recognition result;

wherein the acoustic feature includes one or more of a length of a period of silence and a function of pitch of words near the period of silence, the acoustic feature including an average pitch of words near the period of silence.
- 2-5 (Canceled)
6. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1 wherein the acoustic feature includes a ratio of an average pitch of words near the period of silence.
7. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein formatting the recognition result includes controlling or altering spacing relative to the non-verbalized punctuation mark.
8. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein formatting the recognition result includes controlling or altering capitalization of words relative to the non-verbalized punctuation mark.

9. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein: the non-verbalized punctuation mark includes a period, and formatting the recognition result includes inserting an extra space after the period and capitalizing a next word following the period.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of recognizing punctuation in computer-implemented speech recognition, the method comprising:

- performing speech recognition on an utterance to produce a recognition result for the utterance;

- identifying a non-verbalized punctuation mark in a recognition result;

- formatting the recognition result based on the identification;

- selecting a portion of the recognition result to be corrected that includes the non-verbalized punctuation mark; and

- correcting the portion of the recognition result that includes the non-verbalized punctuation mark with one of a number of correction choices, at least one of the correction choices including a change to the non-verbalized punctuation mark.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The method as in claim 10 wherein at least one of the correction choices does not include the non-verbalized punctuation mark.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising a computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon that when executed by a machine result in at least the following:

- performing speech recognition on an utterance to produce a recognition result for the utterance;

- identifying a non-verbalized punctuation mark in a recognition result including predicting the non-verbalized punctuation mark using at least one text feature and at least one acoustic feature related to the utterance;

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inserting the non-verbalized punctuation mark into the recognition result;
and

formatting the recognition result based on the identification of the non-verbalized punctuation mark after the non-verbalized punctuation mark has been inserted into the recognition result;

wherein the acoustic feature includes one or more of a length of a period of silence and a function of pitch of words near the period of silence, the acoustic feature including an average pitch of words near the period of silence.

14-20 (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method of recognizing punctuation in computer-implemented speech recognition dictation, the method comprising:

performing speech recognition on an utterance to produce a recognition result for the utterance;

identifying a non-verbalized punctuation mark in a recognition result;

determining where to insert the non-verbalized punctuation mark within the recognition result based on the identification using at least one text feature and at least one acoustic feature related to the utterance to predict where to insert the non-verbalized punctuation mark.; and

inserting the non-verbalized punctuation mark into the recognition result;

wherein the acoustic feature includes one or more of a length of a period of silence and a function of pitch of words near the period of silence, the acoustic feature including an average pitch of words near the period of silence.

22-23 (Canceled)

24. (Original) The method as in claim 21 wherein the acoustic feature includes an average pitch of words near the period of silence.

25. (Original) The method as in claim 21 wherein the acoustic feature includes a ratio of an average pitch of words near the period of silence.

26. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising a computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon that when executed by a machine result in at least the following:

- performing speech recognition on an utterance to produce a recognition result for the utterance;

- identifying a non-verbalized punctuation mark in a recognition result;

- determining where to insert the non-verbalized punctuation mark within the recognition result based on the identification using at least one text feature and at least one acoustic feature related to the utterance to predict where to insert the non-verbalized punctuation mark; and

- inserting the non-verbalized punctuation mark into the recognition result;

- wherein the acoustic feature includes one or more of a length of a period of silence and a function of pitch of words near the period of silence, the acoustic feature including an average pitch of words near the period of silence.

27-31 (Canceled)

32. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein using the text features include identifying words before and after a word gap defined by the period of silence.

33. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein acoustic features include the length of silence following the word gap and a function of a pitch of words adjacent to the word gap.

34. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein the acoustic features based on words adjacent to the word gap include the average pitch of the words two back from

the word gap and the a ratio of the average pitch of words one forward and one back from the word gap.

35. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein the acoustic features include a trigram adjacent to the word gap.